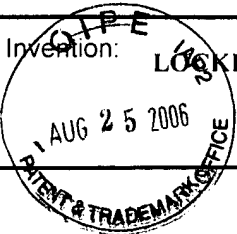
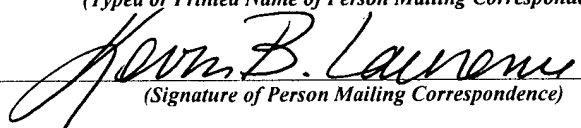


08-28-06

THE
RCE/13

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)			Docket No. 11502/15	
Applicant(s): Blatter				
Application No. 09/736,937	Filing Date December 14, 2000	Examiner Michael G. Mendoza	Customer No. 32642	Group Art Unit 3734
Invention: LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE APPARATUS				
				
I hereby certify that the following correspondence:				
<div>RCE and Information Disclosure Statement (including the items listed below)</div> <p>(Identify type of correspondence)</p>				
is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on				
<div>August 25, 2006</div> <p>(Date)</p>				
<div>Kevin B. Laurence</div> <p>(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)</p> <div></div> <p>(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)</p> <div>EV699360476US</div> <p>("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)</p>				
<p>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p>				
Transmitted:	Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (1 pg.) (including \$395 fee) PTO-Charge Form 2038 charging the amount of \$395 (1 pg.) Letter to the Official Draftsperson (1 pg.) One Drawing Replacement Sheet One Drawing Annotated Sheet Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (3 pgs.) PTO-Form 1449 citing 20 references Copies of seventeen (17) references Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs.) Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail" (37 CFR 1.10) (1 pg.) Label No. EV699360476US			

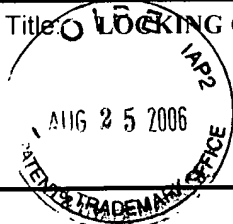
TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
11502/15

In Re Application Of: **Blatter**

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
09/736,937	December 14, 2000	Michael G. Mendoza	32642	3734	1535

Title: **LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE APPARATUS**



Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

37 CFR 1.97(b)

1. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

37 CFR 1.97(c)

2. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

☐ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

OR

☒ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
11502/15

In Re Application of: **Blatter**

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
09/736,937	December 14, 2000	Michael G. Mendoza	32642	3734	1535

Title: LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE APPARATUS

Payment of Fee

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 50-2375
as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of _____
- ☐ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional fee required.
- ☒ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile*

I certify that this document and authorization to charge deposit account is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fa

(Date)

Signature

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on

(Date)

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Certificate

***This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.**

Dated: August 25, 2006

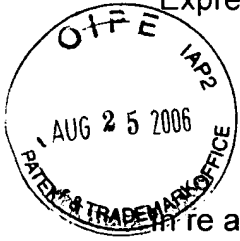
Kevin B. Laurence
Registration No. 38,219
Stoel Rives LLP
One Utah Center
201 South Main Street, Suite 1100
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Telephone: 801-578-6932
Facsimile: 801-578-6999

CC:

Express Mail Label No. EV699360476US

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No.: 11502/15



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re application of:

Blatter

Serial No.: 09/736,937

Filed: December 14, 2000

Title: LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE APPARATUS

Examiner: Michael G. Mendoza

Confirmation No.: 1535

Customer No.: 32642

Art Unit
3734

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.97

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

1. Pursuant to the duty of disclosure, documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are presented for the Examiner's consideration.
- ☐ Copies of listed documents are enclosed. (37 CFR § 1.98(a))
- ☐ Copies of listed U.S. patent documents are omitted because this application was filed after June 30, 2003 and is, thus, subject to image file wrapper processing.
- ☒ Copies of listed foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2))
- ☐ Copies of the documents listed on sheet(s) _____ of Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are omitted because (1) they are already of record in U.S. Patent Application No. _____, filed _____, on which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120; and (2) any information disclosure statement filed in the prosecution of Application No. _____, complies with 37 CFR §§ 1.98(a) through (c). (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d))

2. ☐ The Examiner's attention is directed to the enclosed copy of copending U.S. Patent Application No. _____, filed _____, for _____, which is cited in this application.

3. This information disclosure statement is being submitted (check box a., b., or c.):

- a. ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application or entry of the national stage in an international application; or before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114. (No statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required.); or
- b. ☐ After the period set forth in paragraph 3a, but before the mailing date of either a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. (Check box i. or ii.)
- i. ☐ A \$180.00 information disclosure statement submission fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed, or
- ii. ☐ A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below;
- c. ☐ After the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance and on or before payment of the issue fee. A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below. Enclosed is a \$180.00 information disclosure statement processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
- d. ☒ **Filed with a Request for Continued Examination.**

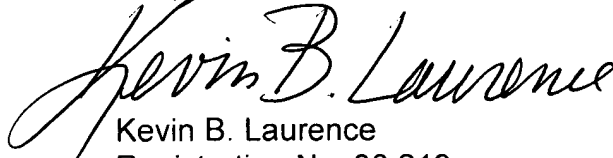
4. If a statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required, the attorney or agent signing below hereby states that:

- ☐ each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
- ☐ no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

5. ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of each document not in the English language and/or selected documents in the English language is included.

DATED this 25TH day of AUGUST, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin B. Laurence
Registration No. 38,219

Stoel Rives LLP
One Utah Center
201 South Main Street, Suite 1100
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Telephone: (801) 578-6932
Facsimile: (801) 578-6999

CUSTOMER NO. 32642

FORM PTO-1449 AUG 25 2006 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
11502/15:1 US

APPLICATION NO.
09/736,937

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Uses several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT: Blatter et al.

ART UNIT: 3734

Title: **LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE ANASTOMOSIS
APPARATUS**

FILING DATE:
December 14, 2000

EXAMINER:
Michael G. Mendoza

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1	6,036,704	03/14/00	Yoon	606	153	05/13/99
	2	4,154,241	05/15/79	Rudie	128	334 C	
	3	3,837,345	09/24/74	Matar	606	159	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	INT'L. CLASS		TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	4	DE 197 32 234 A1	01/28/99	Germany (Abstract only attached in English)				X

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	5	Amendment and Response dated August 08/25/2006 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200. 27 pgs.						
	6	Interview Summary from 06/15/2006 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 1 pg.						
	7	Office Action dated 03/01/2006 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 8 pgs.						
	8	Office Action Response dated 12/07/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 25 pgs.						
	9	Office Action dated 06/07/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 7 pgs.						
	10	Office Action Response dated 04/18/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 20 pgs.						
	11	Office Action dated 10/18/2004 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 7 pgs.						
	12	Office Action Response dated 03/30/2004 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 27 pgs.						
	13	Interview Summary from 03/12/2004 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 1 pg.						

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
	14	Final Office Action dated 11/04/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 5 pgs.
	15	Office Action Response dated 09/08/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 23 pgs.
	16	Office Action dated 05/07/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 6 pgs.
	17	Office Action Response dated 04/01/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 3 pgs.
	18	Office Action dated 03/20/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 5 pgs.
	19	Office Action Response dated 09/02/03 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 24 pgs.
	20	Preliminary Amendment dated 03/05/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/737,200, 45 pgs.
EXAMINER:		DATE CONSIDERED:
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.		